SECRET WARRIORS™

MARVEL

ROSENBERG
GARRÓN
SILVA

#1

SECRET EMPIRE

A Cosmic Cube transformed Steve Rogers, Captain America, into the ultimate Hydra sleeper agent--and after months of scheming and manipulation, the country is now under the control of Hydra.

Most of S.H.I.E.L.D. has been brainwashed. The Royal Family of the Inhumans recently went on a mission to the stars, leaving the Inhumans vulnerable to a new government that views them as impure. And Earth's heroes are either stranded beyond Earth's Planetary Defense Shield or trapped inside the impenetrable Darkforce dome that currently envelops New York City.

But there are a few heroes left...

SECRET WARRIORS

"To Begin the World Over Again" part one

"From infancy on, we are all spies; the shame is not this, but that the secrets to be discovered are so paltry and few." — John Updike

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MOTT HAVEN, THE BRONX. AFTER THE TAKEOVER.

RRRUMMBLE

WAITING FOR SOMEONE?

NOT INTERESTED. KEEP WALKING.

IT'S *DAISY*, RIGHT?

AGENT... *SCOWER*, RIGHT?

CLOSE. *SCHAUER*.

MAN, THEY ARE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE IT BACK AT S.H.I.E.L.D. H.Q. WHEN I TELL THEM I SNUCK UP ON *THE* DAISY JOHNSON. LOST IN YOUR THOUGHTS, HUH?

BUT SERIOUSLY, DAISY, YOU MEETING SOMEONE HERE OR...?

A LADY CAN'T HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE ANYMORE?

AT *THIS* HOUR? YOU'RE GONNA BE UP ALL NIGHT.

THANKS FOR THE CONCERN--

THAT'S *NOT* MY CONCERN, ACTUALLY.

MY CONCERN IS WHEN AN AGENT TAKES A TEAM OUT ON A MISSION AND NOBODY COMES BACK.

AND NOT JUST THAT, BUT THEY NEVER EVEN CHECK IN. WE'VE ALL BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU, DAISY.

AND NOW WE FIND YOU, HAPPY AS CAN BE, HERE AT... WHERE THE $%&! ARE WE, JEFF?

THE CHIPPED CUP.

CUTE. WE FIND YOU AT THE *CHIPPED CUP* WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD. *THAT'S* MY CONCERN, DAISY.

ALL RIGHT. I'LL MAKE SURE TO PASS IT ALONG. MAYBE YOU WANT TO REPORT BACK IN PERSON, DAISY?

THAT'S *AGENT JOHNSON* TO YOU.

WELL, YOU CAN RUN ALONG AND TELL BASE YOU FOUND ME AND I'M DOING FINE. BUT I'M TAKING SOME PERSONAL TIME RIGHT NOW.

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT? I DON'T KNOW HOW DEEP YOU'VE BEEN ***BURIED*** THESE LAST FEW DAYS, BUT THINGS HAVE ***CHANGED.*** IT'S A NEW MORNING IN AMERICA.

SO I HEARD.

BUT YOU DON'T SEEM TO GET IT.

SEE, S.H.I.E.L.D. IS NOW UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF ***HYDRA.*** IN FACT, THIS WHOLE ***COUNTRY*** IS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT. YOUR CAPTAIN AMERICA? HE'S OUR ***SUPREME LEADER*** NOW. I FORGET ANYTHING, JEFF?

HAIL HYDRA.

OH, RIGHT.

SO, DAISY, I THINK ***YOU WILL*** COME BACK TO BASE WITH US AFTER ALL. YOU CAN TAKE A LITTLE LOYALTY TEST TO HYDRA, TALK WITH THE SUPREME LEADER...

THAT'S NOT HAPPENING.

IF YOU'RE WAITING FOR YOUR BUDDY, AGENT COULSON, I'VE GOT SOME ***REAL*** BAD NEWS FOR YOU--

HSSS

CRSSSH

TELL THEM NOT TO BOTHER COMING FOR ME AGAIN.

I'M COMING FOR ***THEM.***

NOWHERE, NEW JERSEY. NOW.

THAT'S THE THING! I'D NEVER EVEN *SEEN* THE VULTURE BEFORE, AND NOW I'M HIDING IN HIS BATHROOM!

I CALL &#@#$%, DAVE.

HEY, WHY'D WE STOP?

OUR FEARLESS HYDRA COMMANDANT UP THERE PROBABLY NEEDS TO TINKLE AGAIN.

RUMMMBBLLE

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

EVERYONE OUT NOW! MASKS ON! WEAPONS HOT! GO! GO! GO!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

TREE FELL ON THE POINT VEHICLE.

IS EVERYONE OKAY? ARE THEY--

WHOA!

RUMMBBLLE

LOOK OUT!

I'M STUCK! HELP!

LEAVE HIM! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!

FROM *WHAT?!*

LOOK SHARP! WATCH THAT TREE LINE! GET AWAY FROM THE OTHER VEHICLES!

THERE!

CRRNCH

WHAT IS IT? I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!

IT LOOKED LIKE A GIRL. I THINK WE HIT HER.

BOOM

WHOA--!

IT'S *MS. MARVEL!* TAKE HER DOWN!

OH MY GOD--

--RUN!

WAIT! PLE--

SCRUNCH

AHHH!

OOOF!

WHAT THE HELL *WAS* THAT THING?!

I--

NO! NOOO!

NONONONONONO.

RUMMMBBLLE

OH, NO.

HEY THERE.

10,000 FEET OVER ANNAPOLIS. BEFORE THE TAKEOVER.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HAS HAD PINGS ON TWO SEPARATE I.P.s THAT WE'D MARKED AS PROBABLE LEVIATHAN BASES.

IF IT WAS LEVIATHAN, I THINK WE'D ALREADY KNOW.

THAT'S TRUE, AGENT COULSON. IT COULD BE NOTHING. IT COULD BE A COINCIDENCE.

BUT NICK FURY ONCE CONFIDED TO ME HIS GOLDEN RULE--

"IGNORING COINCIDENCES GETS YOU KILLED."

OH, !#&$ ALL OF YOU.

COMMANDER CARTER, MY TEAM IS ***STILL*** IN A HOLDING PATTERN WATCHING THOSE MOVEMENTS OUTSIDE THE INHUMAN CITY, ***NEW ATTILAN.***

WE'D LOVE TO GO IN FOR A CLOSER--

YOUR TEAM HAS DONE EXCELLENT WORK ON THIS, AGENT JOHNSON. I'M GOING TO STEP IN TO CHECK THIS OUT MYSELF NOW, ACTUALLY.

ALL DUE RESPECT, CAPTAIN AMERICA, WE'VE BEEN ON THIS SINCE--

I HAVE A ***DIFFERENT*** ASSIGNMENT FOR YOUR TEAM, DAISY. I'D CONSIDER IT A ***PERSONAL FAVOR.***

YOU CAN COME OUT NOW, QUAKE.

SLOWLY.

OH GOOD, MY CAVALRY IS HERE. THANKS FOR STAYING UP PAST BEDTIME FOR THIS.

CUTE. SO HOW DO WE KNOW YOU DIDN'T BECOME A BAD GUY ALONG WITH THE REST OF YOUR S.H.I.E.L.D. FRIENDS?

BESIDES *ME* CONTACTING *YOU* AND *MOON GIRL* AND ASKING *YOU* TO HELP *ME* TAKE DOWN THESE BAD GUYS? I DUNNO, MS. MARVEL-- HOW?

SHE'S GOT A POINT, MS. M.

RIGHT NOW I TRUST S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS ABOUT AS FAR AS I CAN THROW THEM.

WHICH IS PRETTY FAR, REALLY.

I'VE GOT A TEST WE CAN DO, THOUGH.

SNIFF SNIFF

CHECK HER OUT, *DEVIL DINOSAUR.*

HEY, BIG GUY.

OKAY, SHE'S GOOD.

NOW THAT I ANSWERED YOUR QUESTION--

THE *DINOSAUR* ANSWERED OUR QUESTION...

--IT'S MY TURN. WHAT TOOK THE *GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA* SO LONG TO GET OUT HERE?

BETWEEN THAT DOME GOING DOWN OVER MANHATTAN, ALL THOSE HEROES BEING TRAPPED IN SPACE, AND THE WHOLE COUNTRY BEING TAKEN OVER BY HYDRA, SORRY IF WE'RE A LITTLE CAUTIOUS WHEN PEOPLE ASK US TO MEET IN THE WOODS!

BUT YOU CAME.

WE FIGURED IF *YOU* WERE SETTING A TRAP FOR US, WE'D BE OKAY.

HMM...AS OBNOXIOUS AS YOU BOTH ARE, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE. THESE GUYS WERE A LITTLE MORE THAN I WANTED TO GO UP AGAINST ALONE.

WHERE'S YOUR TEAM?

HYDRA HAS BEEN RUNNING CONVOYS BACK AND FORTH THROUGH HERE FOR DAYS. THEY'RE OUT IN THE OPEN. THEY'VE GOT NO FEAR ANYMORE. BUT THIS TRUCK HAS WHAT I NEED...

...TO MAKE HYDRA AFRAID AGAIN.

RRRR-CHUNK

YOU GUYS HAVE ANY GUM?

@#$!.

BALTIMORE HARBOR. BEFORE THE TAKEOVER.

THERE'S NOTHING HERE.

YOU'RE AN IDIOT. CAP'S NOT SENDING US OUT FOR NOTHING, ELLIS.

PLEASE. THIS IS RECON. HE PULLED US OFF ***OUR OWN*** CASE FOR THIS GARBAGE DETAIL? AM I RIGHT, QUAKE?

NO. SLINGSHOT IS RIGHT. YOU ***ARE*** AN IDIOT, ELLIS.

NOW CAN WE ALL ACT LIKE WE'RE IN THE FIELD FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES?

YOU THINK CAP JUST WANTS TO STEAL OUR--

AUUSHH!

SPREAD OUT AND CHECK YOUR CORNERS!

THIS IS ***MOTH SQUADRON!*** WE HAVE AN AGENT DOWN!

DOES ANYONE COPY?! AGENT DOWN!

IT'S THE ***WRECKING CREW!*** FALL BACK! I'LL HOLD THEM!

GREY AND KELLAM ARE DEAD. GOTTA GET YOU OUTTA HERE, BOSS.

YO-YO, NOOO--

--OOOO!

I'LL CHECK ON THE OTHERS!

UNH!

HEY THERE, CUTIE. SORRY WE KILLED ALL YOUR FRIENDS. CAN WE TALK?

NO.

IS THAT IT? IT WAS JUST YOU THREE INHUMANS IN THE TRUCK?

YOU AREN'T HAPPY TO SEE ME, AGENT JOHNSON?

OH, I'M *REAL* HAPPY, *INFERNO.* YOU CAN RUN ALONG NOW.

WHY WERE THEY LOCKED UP? WHAT'S GOING ON?

BAD THINGS.

WELL, IF YOU DIDN'T WANT INFERNO, WHAT *WERE* YOU LOOKING FOR?

NOT *"WHAT."* *WHO.*

YOU ALL GET GOING. HYDRA WILL KNOW THIS CARAVAN IS MISSING SOON, IF THEY DON'T ALREADY.

WHERE ARE *YOU* GOING?

THESE TRUCKS WERE HEADED TO A BASE NEAR HERE. THAT MUST BE WHERE HE IS.

YOU'RE GOING TO ATTACK A HYDRA BASE?

YES.

BY YOURSELF?

YES.

WE'LL COME, TOO!

NO.

I CAN'T LOOK OUT FOR ALL OF YOU.

IT'S COOL. I WAS GONNA GO--

NOBODY SAID YOU HAD TO DO THAT.

NOBODY EVER DOES. BUT I END UP HAVING TO ANYWAY.

DIDN'T WE JUST SAVE YOUR BUTT OUT HERE?

YOU GOT US INVOLVED. SO NOW WE'RE INVOLVED.

...

FINE. IF WE'RE DOING IT THIS WAY, WE'LL BRING THE *INHUMAN TORCH* TOO. YOU OTHER TWO, GO FIND SOMEPLACE SAFE TO HIDE.

WHY CAN'T THEY COME?

BECAUSE THIS ISN'T A GAME. AND HE'S A LITTLE KID.

SO AM I!

BUT YOU HAVE A #$&*ING DINOSAUR.

BROOKLYN-BOUND D TRAIN. BEFORE THE TAKEOVER.

145TH STREET. TRANSFER HERE FOR THE A, B, OR C TRAINS.

HOW ARE YOU?

IT'S GETTING WORSE.

I'VE BEEN HEARING THAT A LOT LATELY.

WE WERE SET UP.

HALF THE D.C. OFFICE IS STILL DIGGING YOUR TEAM OUT AND TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT--

HE SET US UP, COULSON.

YOU DON'T KNOW THAT. SOME MISSIONS--

I DO.

I JUST WALKED MY WHOLE TEAM INTO A SUICIDE MISSION. I WATCHED THEM DIE. PLEASE TRUST ME.

WE'VE GOT CHITAURI BEARING DOWN ON US, THE MUTANTS HAVE DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR, THERE'S THIS MESS IN SOKOVIA, AND NOW HYDRA'S BEEN SPOTTED ALL OVER NEW JERSEY FOR SOME REASON...IT'S A MESS.

YOU'RE OFF THE BOARD RIGHT NOW. STAY THAT WAY. MEET ME AT THE CHIPPED CUP IN 72 HOURS.

AND DAISY...

"...DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID UNTIL YOU TALK TO ME."

THAT'S BIG.

IT IS.

REALLY BIG.

IT IS.

THAT'S NOT A BASE.

NO. IT'S NOT.

IT'S A PRISON CAMP FOR INHUMANS.

I *KNEW* I SHOULD HAVE TALKED MY WAY OUT OF THIS.

IT'S FOR *INHUMANS?!* YOU KNEW ABOUT THIS?

I HAD A HUNCH. I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE THIS BIG.

WHY ARE THEY DOING THIS?

BAD GUYS DO BAD THINGS.

WE NEED TO CALL FOR BACKUP.

THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO CALL.

THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM FOR THE FOUR OF US.

I JUST NEED A DISTRACTION SO I CAN SLIP IN AND OUT.

YOU WANT TO LEAVE THOSE INHUMANS IN THERE? THEY'RE WHY WE'RE HERE!

NO. WE'RE *HERE* BECAUSE THERE IS A WAR COMING AND WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO WIN IT.

MAYBE YOU WANT TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE AN INHUMAN, QUAKE. THAT ALL OF US ARE INHUMANS.

BUT THE GOOD GUYS DON'T LET PEOPLE STAY LOCKED UP WHEN THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.

WE'RE FREEING THOSE PEOPLE. HELP OR DON'T, AGENT JOHNSON.

UHH... GUYS?

"WHAT'S MOON GIRL DOING?"

HI THERE.

HAVE YOU SEEN MY DOG?

KID, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

HE'S BIG AND RED, AND--

WHAT THE--?

HEY, EVERYONE? I THINK THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE!

OH, *THERE'S* MY DOG! THANKS, MISTER.

INFERNO, DON'T LET THEM CUT US OFF FROM THE GATE!

ON IT!

THE GATE'S OPEN. WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE? IF YOU HURRY, YOU CAN ESCAPE--

WE ARE STAYING.

ARE YOU HIS GUARDS, IS THAT IT? CAN I SPEAK WITH HIM?

NO.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU TWO CAN FLEE WHILE I SPEAK WITH HER.

HELLO, QUAKE.

HELLO, *KARNAK.* I CAME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

LET'S WALK.

STRANGE TO ASSUME THAT I NEEDED RESCUING, ISN'T IT?

YOU *WANT* TO BE IN THIS PRISON CAMP?

MY PEOPLE ARE GOING EXTINCT. THIS COUNTRY IS TEARING ITSELF APART.

HERE, I HAVE A BED. I HAVE FOOD. THE REST IS INCONSEQUENTIAL, ISN'T IT?

NO. IT REALLY ISN'T. AND SOME OF US ARE STILL FIGHTING.

I SEE THAT. ADMIRABLE.

I'LL FIGHT UNTIL THE END, BUT I NEED A *CHANCE.* I NEED TO KNOW HOW TO BEAT THEM.

I NEED YOU.

THE GIRL WHO MAKES EARTHQUAKES WANTS TO STOP HER WORLD FROM CRUMBLING.

WHILE YOU STRUGGLE TO SET THE WORLD RIGHT, I SET MYSELF RIGHT IN THE WORLD.

SO, NO. YOUR CRUSADE DOESN'T INTEREST ME. I'LL STAY.

QUAKE, WE HAVE TO GO NOW!

MOON GIRL. WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE.

YOU'RE REAL CREEPY.

YES. YES, I AM.

SHE IS WITH YOU?

SORT OF.

I'M NOT WITH *HER*. SHE'S WITH *ME*.

MAYBE I *WILL* JOIN YOUR LITTLE CRUSADE AFTER ALL, QUAKE. BUT I'M NOT THE PERSON YOU NEED. I KNOW WHERE HE IS, THOUGH.

THE *X-MEN* TOOK HIM.

WHERE?!

WELL, THAT'S $#%&$@ GREAT.

TO BE CONTINUED...

SECRET WARRIORS

LETTERS PAGE

We want to hear from you! Send your emails to **mheroes@marvel.com** and please mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT."**

So...that was our first issue. Thanks for buying it. Or borrowing it. Or just reading it in the back of your local comic shop while the employees glared at you. I really hope you liked it. This is where our letters section will be if anyone writes us letters. So far no one has, so Sarah, our wonderful associate editor, asked me to write a little thing in the back of this issue for you, our hopefully loyal new readers. As you can probably tell, I'm not sure what to write, so I'm stalling.

This is all pretty new to me. I haven't been writing for Marvel long. I think this is the 15th comic I've written for the House of Ideas. In fact, I haven't even been writing comics for that long, really. But I've been *reading* Marvel comics my whole life.

I owe so much of who and what I am to these books. I learned to read by stealing my brother's comics so I could follow the adventures of Reed, Sue, Johnny, and Ben. I learned to stand up for the things I believe in from Steve. I learned about responsibility and the value of snark from Peter. I learned about justice from Matt. I learned to feel comfortable with who I am from Logan, Ororo, Kurt, Peter, and Scott. In the pages of all these comics, I learned about good, evil, friendship, love, patriotism, prejudice, sex, violence, honor, revenge, space travel, parallel dimensions, radiation, mutation, gods, demons, ducks, raccoons, and basically everything else I know. They all left indelible marks on me. And while I may not be the most well-adjusted person out there, I'm doing okay.

Even after learning pretty much everything I know from them, I still read Marvel comics and manage to learn new things and get blown away by them every single week. And that's the power of Marvel. It was here for decades before I was born, telling a story. And it'll be here long after I die, telling the same story. But that story is always changing, always moving forward in gigantic leaps and immeasurably small steps. It's just as much the story of Thor as it is the story of Willie Lumpkin. It's Kingpin and it's Koi Boi. It's the story of a universe.

And that brings us here, to the Secret Warriors. For me, this book is about all of that. It's a love letter to the big and the small, the epic and the personal, the past and the future. It's a look at this huge universe that I love—Inhumans and X-Men, Captain America and Hydra, earthquakes and dinosaurs. But it's also about the small things I want to learn from these characters: Quake's pragmatism, Ms. Marvel's idealism, Moon Girl's ingenuity, Inferno's modesty, Karnak's devotion, and Devil Dinosaur's radness. It's about the characters I grew up with and the ones we're all just getting to know now.

Besides the thrill of getting to play in this universe, I'm constantly amazed that I'm allowed to create this comic with some of the best collaborators I've ever worked with. Javier Garrón's art makes these characters feel real to me in ways I never imagined. It is the high point of my day every time he sends in pages. Israel Silva's colors bring this world to life. Clayton Cowles' lettering seamlessly merges my words with their art. And Wil Moss, Sarah Brunstad, and Charles Beacham help all of us do the best job we can. Everyone makes it as much fun to be behind the pages as it has always been to be in front of them.

Special thanks to Jack and Stan; Brian Michael Bendis and Gabriele Dell'Otto; G. Willow Wilson and Adrian Alphona; Matt Fraction, Charles Soule, and Joe Madureira; Amy Reeder, Brandon Montclare, and Natacha Bustos; and Jonathan Hickman and Stefano Caselli for the awesome toys. We're trying our best not to break them.

And thank **you** for coming along for the ride so far. It means a lot to all of us. If you have anything to say—good or bad, nice or less nice—write to us, and we'll do our best to respond on this very page in future issues. (And please help us name this page!) Come back in two weeks to see our heroes steal a car, get on each other's nerves, and kick some Hydra goons in the face.

-Matthew Rosenberg
NYC.

NEXT:

SECRET WARRIORS

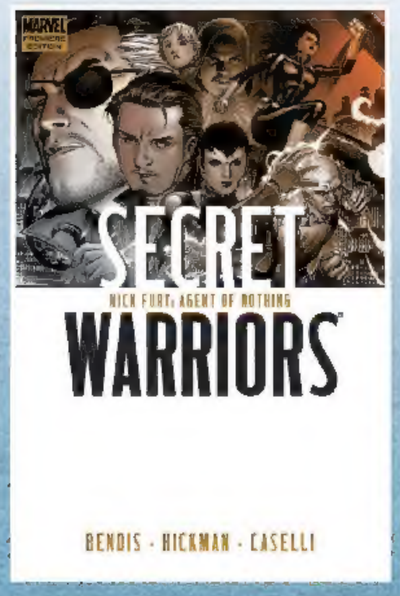
#2

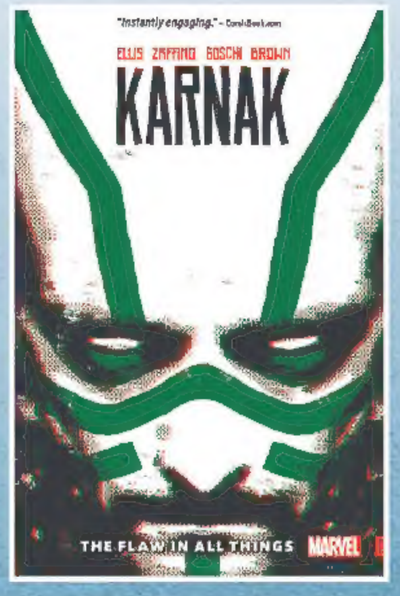
ROYALS #3

Where is Phil Coulson? Check out
DEADPOOL #31

BLACK BOLT #2

Wanna know more about the ragtag team taking down Hydra? Check out their big breaks and debuts:





ZONE